

A Tribute to Columbia

UPTOWN, TORONTO

Submarine	-	Week of March 16th
Lone Wolf's Daughter		Week of March 30th

HIPPODROME, TORONTO

Name the Woman	-	Week of March 25th
Restless Youth	-	Week of April 22nd

CAPITOL, MONTREAL

Submarine	-	Week of Feb. 9th
Lone Wolf's Daughter		Week of March 30th

IMPERIAL, MONTREAL

Scarlet Lady	-	Week of Feb. 17th
Nothing To Wear	-	Week of Feb. 24th
Restless Youth	-	Week of March 17th

GARRICK, WINNIPEG

Lone Wolf's Daughter		Week of March 2nd
Younger Generation	-	Week of March 16th
		and held over for week of March 23rd
Trial Marriage	-	Week of April 6th

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LOUIS ROSENFELD - General Manager



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World Wide Pictures,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Attention Mr. Beecham.

Dear Mr. Beecham:—

As you know, we have used two of World Wide Pictures. We are writing you to tell you how much we were surprised after having seen these. We agreed to use seven subjects to be selected by your Mr. Strachan. We did not know the titles, names of players, nor the types of pictures—merely took Mr. Strachan's recommendation.

We were more than well pleased with "TOMMY ATKINS" and "HONEY-MOON ABROAD." The players were good and the directing excellent, and everything about them were real. We are glad we have several more World Wide pictures.

Wishing you the best of success in your new undertaking and with the kindest personal regards,

Yours very truly,
(signed) H. G. STEELY,
Manager.



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Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. - Toronto

London Office

80-82 Wardor St., W 1

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 20, No. 48

TORONTO 2, CANADA

March 30th, 1929

A British Empire Theatre Chain

IN A RECENT interview with "Jaydee Williams," executive vice-president of World Wide Pictures, he stated that eighty-five per cent. of the motion picture investment was in motion picture theatres.

The theatre proposition appears to be one in which the Financial Houses are interested; and the public in general respond as far as investing capital is concerned.

Mr. Adolph Zukor some time ago made a statement to the effect that the control of the motion picture industry was at the source from which its capital was secured, that is the box-office.

Financiers like "brick and mortar." Men who would not touch motion pictures as an investment from the production angle, will eagerly enter into a proposition of theatres.

If the theatre proposition appears to be a sound proposition to financiers; and the public like this angle as an investment also, if eighty-five per cent. of the capital invested in motion pictures today is represented in its theatres; and these theatres represent the control of the picture industry, in establishing a British Film Industry one should not overlook the importance of building up an Empire chain of theatres.

With Gaumont British as the dominant theatre chain in England, and Famous Players Canadian as the dominant chain of theatres in Canada, the two key countries of the Empire are British controlled; and hold the theatre control. From such a powerful beginning it should not be beyond British power to ally these two chains into a British Empire chain; bringing the other theatre chains of the British Empire into the family. A Parent British Empire Theatre Company could be formed with Gaumont and Famous Players Canadian as its subsidiaries, and to these could be added other chains, all under the control of the parent organization, which would of course be British controlled.

With such a plan consummated it would not be necessary for the promoters of a British Film Industry to worry about legislation and quotas.

The producing units could also be amalgamated following the merged movements which are proceeding in the United States; and of which we have so far only seen the beginning.

"Jaydee" Williams has the idea in connection with his company, World Wide Pictures. This is the most economic and progressive method of distributing British and imported pictures.

London is the key centre of Europe, of the continent. Canada is the key centre for British contact with the American Film Industry. The time is ripe for a merging of forces, finances, power. For moving with the times; and for strengthening positions.

The theatre movement should be in the process of being completed in line with "Jaydee" Williams' plan in connection with British production and distribution.

Two most important British theatre happenings have occurred of recent dates. The first the acquisition by Gaumont British of what has been termed in Canada, the Lord Beaverbrook chain of theatres in England, namely, the Provincial Cinematograph; and of more recent date the purchase from American Interests, by N. L. Nathanson and his Canadian associates, of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation's shares; giving this powerful chain of Canadian theatres, covering all key centres from coast to coast; and in practical control of the theatre situation in Canada, over to Canadians.

I feel that Col. Bromhead, president of Gaumont British, and N. L. Nathanson, managing director of Famous Players Canadian Corp., could talk to each other in a language which would do much towards the establishment of a powerful British Film Industry. Now is the time.

Ray Lewis

RALEIGH



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

GEORGE A. LAMB, a native of London, Ont., and a former resident of Toronto, of whom it is stated that he was associated with a brokerage business, has become involved in a \$5,000,000 stock probe connected with the Combined Color and Sound Film Corporation of Massachusetts and New York, of which company he is the secretary-treasurer. The fraud bureau of the New York attorney-general's office is investigating.

Stock of the Color and Sound Corporation was branded as fraudulent by the Massachusetts public utilities commission; and the sale of this stock was banned.

The inventor of the Sound and Color machine which this company was marketing, has withdrawn from the company. J. L. Simons is his name. He states that the machines were not perfect and alleges "trickery" beyond his control.

The offices of the company are at 55 West 142nd Street, New York, where W. W. Ackerson, as president of the company, and Lamb, as treasurer, officiate. Of Lamb it is said he went to New York in 1908, and was disbarred from the practice of law in that state.

Lamb charged that J. P. Morgan was instrumental in having him disbarred from the practice of law, owing to a deal he had when Peter Powers and himself attempted to merge the Northern Pacific Railroads with other companies and ran up against the opposition of Morgan.

CHARGES of conspiracy were lodged against Lamb and Powers, resulting in Lamb's severance with law. Following this Lamb is reported as having turned his attention to stock promotion.

Toronto and Montreal are investigating Lamb's operations in that city back in the "nineties." Lamb it is said recently promoted a Canadian film enterprise.

Meanwhile a letter from Niles Welch, who had such an unfortunate experience with "Carry On Sergeant," conveys the sad information that Mr. Welch invested \$3,000 in Canadian Classic Productions of Montreal. Mr. Welch states in respect to "Carry On Sergeant," "what a mess they have made of a golden opportunity! The failure of the picture has certainly been an awful blow to me, for it has kept me off the screen for over a year."

MR. WELCH states that he was induced to invest \$3,000 in Canadian Classic Productions of Montreal at the instigation of Col. Wm. F. Stewart, who frequently visited Trenton, breaking bread with Welch, at his table when he was resident in Trenton.

The Canadian Classic Productions of Montreal are now declared bankrupt, and nobody appears to know where Col. Wm. F. Stewart is.

IT WOULD be an excellent thing for Canada, and the Film Industry here if some of these Colonels with Film ambitions, and get-rich-quick ideas would be "decolonelized" when they start in their film promotion ideas. The military appendix gives a degree of respectability and soundness to the owner; and helps to promote where a plain "Mr." might not be so alluring. Considering the British Film interest, which has been aroused, it is much easier for military titles to attract public capital; and unfortunately for Canada, we have had a few samples like the experience Mr. Welch relates in association with Colonels and Canadian film enterprise which has "come a cropper."

THERE ARE plenty of sources of information here in Canada from which one can receive advice in connection with Film Enterprise here; and if those who are interested will only ask questions before they part with their money it will prove the "ounce of prevention," which is said to be worth "a pound of cure."

TIFFANY PRODUCTIONS of Canada, Limited, has been organized with the head office at 277 Victoria St. Mr. Phil Hazza is Canadian representative, while Charles Stephenson will be manager of the Toronto office.

Tiffany Productions of Canada, Limited, will have twenty pictures for 1929-1930, Sound and Silent, in addition to ten coloured symphonies, arranged with Sound on film, on Disc and as silent releases. These will introduce songs and music.

A recent interview with Phil Hazza disclosed the information that "Lucky Boy" played Holy Week at the Imperial, Ottawa, and the week commencing March 23rd, at the Palace, Montreal, to excellent business.

WINFIELD SHEEHAN, vice-president of Fox Film, states that his company will renounce the silent film for the dominion of Dialogue and Sound. Will Rogers, George Jessel, J. Harold Murray, have been signed up to make pictures for Fox. Sheehan states that the new policy will take eighteen months of preparation and an expenditure of fifteen million dollars. He left for the coast to take charge of the new ten million dollar Fox studio, where twenty-five recording units are reported as in operation.



Looking Them Over



"The Dummy," "The Cohens and The Kellys in Atlantic City"

"THE DUMMY," a Paramount picture, played the Uptown Theatre, Toronto, Manager Nelson Shea, surrounded by as Broadway a show as I have seen on Broadway. The comedy was a "hum-dinger." It showed a family in quest of an apartment. The two children were in the way; and finally after walking miles, husband and wife, footsore and weary, exasperated by their "incorrigibles," whom they could not keep hidden, nor suppressed, determine to "shoot" the children. It is a rare travesty, and with its German accent, introduced by "father," is as clever a comedy as one could hope for. It certainly added to the general success of the bill.

JACK ARTHURS' presentation and settings for his artists was also big-time stuff. The pony ballet was in excellent form and pulled some new and snappy numbers, with just enough original "kicks" to them to make the surprise element enter in, bringing natural applause as a reward for such effort.

"THE DUMMY" was the talking feature which featured Ruth Chatterton, although with all due respect to Ruth, who has been doing some outstanding dialogue work in recent successful films the honours of the "Dummy" must go to Mickey Bennett, who impersonates "The Dummy" in order to be a "detectiff."

The material is so natural, as everyone who has a boy can testify, that the picture is 100 per cent. entertainment all the way through, with plenty of suspense and thrills which must accompany a story which revolves around the kidnapping of a little girl, by a band of crooks, and which gives Mickey Bennett a chance to win his "medals" by capturing the "crooks"; and restoring the child to her parents.

THERE is much more to the plot in which the father and mother of the child are separated, and the mother suspects the father. The double-cross play of crook against crook.

How Mickey gets his chance by stealing a position in a detective agency as office boy from about a hundred other kids; and how whilst on the job he pulls a sufficient number of wise moves to convince the "boss," that the kid is a born detective, provides plenty of laughs.

ZASU PITTS, as the wife of one of the crooks, who helps in the kidnapping, is a hit on her own and about the funniest line in "The Dummy" is the one Zasu utters when she tells her crook-husband, "I have figured it out that I'll be ninety-nine when we get through serving time for what we have pulled." The maternal instinct in Zasu is strong; and since she has to handle the kidnapped kids, this angle is original in motion pictures; and gives scope for plenty of comedy plays.

JOHN CROMWELL, as the "Boss Detective," was excellent in voice and screen ability. Vondell Darr, as the little kidnapped girl was excellent, living up to her reputation established in "On Trial." The story was adapted from the stage play by Harvey J. O'Higgins and Harriet Ford. It was directed by Robert Milton; and should please everywhere.

"THE COHEN'S and The Kelly's in Atlantic City" is a Universal. It is played at Pantages Theatre under the management of Fred Shafer. It is another

laugh-producer, and the harder the audience laugh, the more they will continue to laugh. The day I saw the picture they laughed good and loud and long. Mack Swain does Mr. Kelly, while George Sidney does Mr. Cohen.

THE STORY unfolds at Atlantic City, where Mr. and Mrs. Cohen and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly are arrested, being held on a nominal charge. It seems that Pa Cohen is responsible for the arrest, for he has telegraphed the police of Atlantic City to arrest a Miss Cohen and a Mr. Kelly, the Miss Cohen is his daughter, while the Mr. Kelly is his partner Kelly's son. The son and daughter have been reported as having eloped to Atlantic City.

The police arrest Mr. Cohen and Mrs. Kelly when they arrive in Atlantic City; and Mrs. Cohen and Mr. Kelly, believing that wife and husband respectively have eloped, follow to Atlantic City, only to be lodged in jail also.

THE COHEN'S and the Kelly's in jail furnish plenty of fun, especially when Papa Cohen, resenting his arrest, makes the kind of noise, which precipitates his removal to another cell, where he is handcuffed to a criminal, the latter escaping and dragging the protesting Cohen with him.

William James Craft directed with his eye on laughs. His vision was good. George Sidney is a real Papa Cohen, while Vera Gordon as his beloved spouse contests the Yiddish honours. Mack Swain is as Kellyfied as a Kelly could wish, while Kate Price is the same rollicking Katie Kelly.

"THE LION'S ROAR," the Educational Mack Sen-nett comedy, is playing the Tivoli Theatre, Toronto, this week, under the management of Tom Daley. Imagine the show, "Broadway Melody" and "The Lion's Roar," really too much for the money; and the crowd know it, for the line-up is all along the front of the house, around the corner and then some, continuously all day, with a turn away at the midnight show Friday.

IN "The Lion's Roar," the frogs croak, the birds sing, the cows do their talking stunt, the lion roars; and the audience roars with laughter, holds its sides as one man at Billy Bevan and Johnny Burke, who are a riot. However, we will tell you some more about this "knock-out" in our next issue, it deserves a great deal of attention, for it is going to create plenty of box-office appeal on its own; and give motion picture patrons the best laugh which they have had in years.

"BROADWAY MELODY" was reviewed editorially several weeks ago. It is even better than ever, that is the dialogue, the songs and music are heard to better advantage at the Tivoli, than I heard them at The Embassy, New York. I asked Tom Daley why this appeared so to me; and whether it was just my imagination, but Tom Daley thinks I'm right, since the installation at the Tivoli is the "best ever."

It's a great show. No wonder the "legit" managers see the decline of the drama. It is impossible to compete with this kind of entertainment, especially considering the price of admission.

—EDITOR



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Songs, written by Fann

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7 DIALOGUE AND SINGING 7 ATTRactions

"LUCKY BOY"—
George Jessel, Margaret Quimby, Richard Tucker, Rosa
Rosanova, Wm. Straus. Norman Taurog, Director.

"MOLLY AND ME"—
Belle Bennett, Joe E. Brown, Alberta Vaughn.
Albert Ray, Director.

"WHISPERING WINDS"—
Eve Southern, Patsy Ruth Miller, Malcolm McGregor.
James Flood, Director.

"MY LADY'S PAST"—
Belle Bennett, Joe E. Brown, Alma Bennett, Russell
Simpson. Albert Ray, Director.

"MIDSTREAM"—
Ricardo Cortez, Claire Windsor, Montague Love, Helen
Jerome Eddy, Larry Kent. James Flood, Director.

"TWO MEN AND A MAID"—
William Collier, Jr., Eddie Gribbon, Alma Bennett,
George E. Stone. George Archainbaud, Director.

"NEW ORLEANS"—
Richard Cortez, Alma Bennett, William Collier, Jr.
Reginald Barker, Director.

5 SYNCH

"THE TOILERS"—
Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.,
A Reginald Barker

"THE CAVALIER"—
Richard Talbot,
Irwin Willat

"MARRIAGE BY ARRANGEMENT"—
Patsy Ruth Miller,
Raymond Keane,
A John M. Sturges

"THE RAINBOW"—
Dorothy Seaborne,
Harvey Clark,
A Reginald Barker

"THE VOICE OF THE VIOLET"—
Eve Southern

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alston, Harvey Clark.

ford, David Torrence.

Gray, Robert Edeson,

on.

ay, Gino Corrado,

ction.

9 SILENT PRODUCTIONS 9

"THE NAUGHTY DUCHESS"—
Eve Southern, H. B. Warner.

"THE POWER OF SILENCE"—
Belle Bennett, John Westwood.

"GEORGE WASHINGTON COHEN"—
George Jessel.

"THE GUN RUNNER"—
Ricardo Cortez, Nora Lane.

"TROPICAL NIGHTS"—
Malcolm McGregor, Patsy Ruth Miller.

"THE MAN IN HOBBLES"—
John Harrow, Lila Lee.

"BROADWAY FEVER"—
Sally O'Neill, Roland Drew.

"THE DEVIL'S APPLE TREE"—
Dorothy Sebastian, Larry Kent.

"THE SPIRIT OF YOUTH"—
Dorothy Sebastian, Larry Kent.

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**TIFFANY
ONE**

Big Names for Columbia Company in Front Rank

Great Broadway Stage Successes in the Line-up.

COLUMBIA'S determination to occupy the strongest possible position in the producing and distribution field has been evidenced not only by the story material on which its productions are based but also by the big screen names that are identified with its acting and directorial roster. Among the big stars that are working on the Columbia lot are Jean Hersholt, Warner Oland, Ben Lyon, Ricardo Cortez, Jack Holt, Betty Compson, Ralph Forbes, Virginia Valli, Dorothy Revier, Marceline Day, Marie Prevost, Lois Wilson and Charles Delaney. In the directorial end Columbia has such box-office names as Frank R. Capra, Erle C. Kenton, Alan Crosland, John McCarthy, Joseph Henabery, R. William Neill and Christy Cabanne.

To meet the demand for high class dialogue films from the wired houses, Columbia recently embarked in the audible field with one of the greatest talking programs planned for this season. Great Broadway stage successes, novels of universal renown and specially written stories have been selected as the vehicles of this talking program. Stars that are as prominent on the stage as on the screen have been assembled for the casts and the direction has been entrusted to box-office directors.

"Submarine," first of Columbia's sound program, is now an assured success, playing repeat engagements in the toughest spots.

"The Lone Wolf's Daughter," a part talkie, is the greatest of this popular Columbia series. Bert Lytell, a leader among the new constellation of talking stars, reached new heights in this production by giving a screen voice to the character he created. Gertrude Olmstead, Charles Gerrard and Lilyan Tashman are prominent in the cast. Al Rogell, First National's box-office director, handled the megaphone.

"The Younger Generation," adapted from the play "It Is to Laugh," by Fannie Hurst, America's highest paid woman writer, gives every indication of being a big bet in talking screen entertainment. Jean Hersholt, Lina Basquette, Ricardo Cortez, Rex Lease, Rosa Rosanova and Martha Franklin are the talking stars of a prominent cast, which also includes Julia Swayne Gordon, Julianne Johnston, Sydney

Col. J. Cooper Re-elected President of M.P.D.E.A.

The Annual Meeting of the Motion Picture Distributors and Exhibitors of Canada was held here yesterday when Colonel John A. Cooper, who has been President since the inception of the organization, was re-elected. Directors elected were as follows: Henry Nathanson, Regal Films, Ltd.; James Travis, Canadian Educational Films, Ltd.; P. C. Taylor, R.K.O. Distributing Corp. of Canada; Morris Milligan, Famous Lasky Film Service; R. S. Bell, First National Pictures; Clair Hague, Canadian Universal Film Co., Ltd.; J. P. O'Loughlin, Fox Film Corp.; B. F. Lyon, Vitagraph, Inc.; H. M. Masters, United Artists Corp.; Clarence Robson and Jack Arthur, Famous Players Canadian Corporation.

The President's annual report was approved by the meeting and plans laid for further activities by the Association.

Mae Murray Signed By Tiffany-Stahl

Mae Murray, one of the greatest personalities of the stage and screen, has been signed to a long term contract by Tiffany-Stahl, according to announcement made by Grant L. Cook, Vice-President of the company.

The pictures, which are to be all talking and singing, will be "Peacock Alley," "Broadway Rose" and "Fascination." All three productions, according to Mr. Cook, will be made on a lavish scale, the stories of which give Miss Murray scope for her many histrionic talents.

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Crossley and Otto Fries. Frank R. Capra directed.

"The Fall of Eve," by John Emerson and Anita Loos, the ace writing team which turned out "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes"; "Fatherly Love," a powerful drama of paternal sacrifice, and "A Broadway Hoofer," which will have all the highlights of a big Broadway musical revue are the other talkie vehicles already announced.

Harry Alexander Elected President M.P.T.O.A.

J. C. Brady, Honorary President.

A meeting of the M.P.T.O. was held on Friday, March 15th, and the following officers were elected:

J. C. Brady Hon. President
H. Alexander President
M. Gebertig Vice-President
A. Polokoff Treasurer
J. Alexander Secretary

"Sailors Don't Care" Hit in New Zealand

The following letter received in London last week helps to tell the story of the increasing popularity of British films in the Colonies:

c/o Bank of New South Wales,
Palmerston North,
New Zealand,

Dear Sirs:

Your production "Sailors Don't Care" is one of the finest films I have seen, and if British films keep up to this standard they should have nothing to fear in foreign competition. Wishing you success in the future.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

KENNETH BUTLER.

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The word of a gentleman and a scholar concerning "PICCADILLY"

The National Board of Review of Motion Pictures

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NEW YORK, N.Y.

TELEPHONE ALGONQUIN 8344

WILTON A. BARRETT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

March 21, 1929

Mr. J. D. Williams
World Wide Pictures, Inc.
130 West 46th Street
New York City

My dear Mr. Williams:

This is to acquaint you with the fact that the World Wide production "Piccadilly", reviewed by our Committee on Exceptional Photoplays on March 20th, was selected by that group for major mention in the National Board's exceptional photoplays list.

It was the consensus of opinion of the Committee that this film is the finest picture yet imported from England and one of the finest pictures, for that matter, to reach this country from anywhere else. They considered its production quality all that American standards and American taste demand and particularly commented on the consistency of its story, the truthfulness of characters, the very high level of acting on the part of the entire cast and, last but not least, the great distinction of Mr. Dupont's direction which holds the plot at a point of continuous interest,

With best wishes for the success of this very fine film.

Sincerely yours,

WILTON A. BARRETT

Executive Secretary

WAB;HAC

Distribution



Thru Educational

Show Business

"Vendredi Saint, le 29 Mars, le theatre sera ferme." This is the notice which appeared in the theatres of Hull, Quebec, prior to Good Friday, the announcement being that the theatre would be closed on the holy day. This applied to the Laurier, Capitol and Eden Theatres, all of which are operated by Donat Paquin. Hull theatres operate every day in the year, Sundays included, with the exception of the one day, Good Friday.

The Allens, of Toronto, Ontario, have purchased a site at Prescott on which to build a model theatre, for which the plans are being prepared by Richards and Abra, architects, Ottawa. Having been selected by the Canadian Government as the shipping terminal for the Great Lakes Waterways System, Prescott is experiencing a real boom.

Luna Park, a large amusement park at Hull, Quebec, embodying a moving picture theatre, has been acquired by a syndicate of Hull business men, the park having recently been sold by public auction. Plenty of rain last summer forced the move.

By way of a business boost during the Lenten season, the United Amusements, Limited, Montreal, presented two valuable silver cups as prizes for an elimination dancing contest in eight of their 14 local theatres recently, the winning couple being designated as the dancing champions of Montreal.

Notables were present at the Playhouse Theatre, Winnipeg, Manitoba, on Wednesday evening, March 20, when the ceremony took place of the presentation of a medal to Sergt.-Detective Charles MacIvor of the Winnipeg Police Force, for bravery in connection with the cap-

ture of a murderer. The Premier of Manitoba, Hon. John Bracken, and Mayor McLean of Winnipeg officiated. The theatre was jammed.

Roy McDonald, assistant manager of B. F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa, Ontario, for the past four years, has resigned to take a holiday in his home at Halifax, N. S., before proceeding to Philadelphia, Pa., where he will continue in the theatre field.

A print of "Piccadilly," the Arnold Bennet story directed by E. A. Dupont, which was preceded by a fanfare of acclaim from the English critics, arrived at the New York office of World Wide Pictures this week and was first screened for the company's officials, and then for a group of persons who have no connection with the Industry.

The verdict of all was, that not only is "Piccadilly" all that has been said of it in advance, but many were of the opinion that in entertainment and artistry it is by far the most complete production ever sent to America from Europe.

World Wide intends to get behind this picture which presents Gilda Gray in the star role, with Anna May Wong and Jameson Thomas as featured players. Another artist is discovered in "Piccadilly" in the person of King Ho-Chan, an Oriental, who is going to be heard from again. Miss Gray does splendid work as the night club dancer, and little Anna May Wong makes the hit of her career. Jameson Thomas, also puts over a polished performance as the night club proprietor.

Arnold Bennet's story is a slice of real London life into which Dupont has put all his subtle directorial technique which even exceeds his "Variety."

World Wide will synchronize the production, introduce songs, dances and effects through the R. C. A. film and disc method, and it will be given a big Broadway premier at the same time it is released over the country. Cutting and synchronization are now under way, and it will be ready for release in one month.

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Show Business



Members of the British Columbia Legislature, in session at Victoria, put their foot down on a measure introduced by Attorney-General Pooley to establish censorship for moving picture advertising in daily newspapers. So much opposition developed against the proposal that it has been substantially amended and there is a probability that it will be withdrawn altogether.

Loew's Theatre, Toronto, one of the largest in the Ontario Capital, is being wired for sound presentations, following a trip to New York by Manager Jules Bernstein. This will make the third big house in Toronto to be wired.

The Capitol Theatre, London, Ontario, has adopted the Saturday opening plan, thus falling into line with scores of theatres in Canada in this respect. Manager R. S. Roddick made the change with the showing of "Wings." The London Capitol is wired.

The Capitol Theatre, Windsor, Ontario, has been purchased by Famous Players Canadian Corp., Toronto, the price involved being \$292,500. The sale was concluded following a meeting of the preferred and common shareholders of the Windsor Capitol Theatre Company, Ltd., at Windsor recently when the shareholders voted unanimously for the proposal. Famous Players did have a theatre site in Windsor but made an offer for the Capitol instead of building the new house.

George J. Forhan, manager of Griffin's Theatre, St. Catharines, Ontario, has conducted many different stage competitions as added attractions and his ideas in this respect never seem to be exhausted. For the presentation of "The Woman Disputed," he staged a "Pretty Foot Contest" for the ladies and crowds stormed the theatre. Plenty of prizes were contributed by shoe stores and hosiery manufacturers.

One of the youngest theatre managers in the Dominion is Ivan Ackery of Vancouver, B.C. He was born in Bristol, England, 27 years ago. He obtained a job as usher at the Capitol Theatre, Calgary, in 1919, later becoming an usher at the Vancouver Capitol. In 1927 he became manager of the Victoria Theatre, a suburban house in Vancouver, and he has now been appointed manager of the Dominion, one of the large downtown theatres of Vancouver.

The information has been divulged that the Quebec Provincial Government has made a grant of \$200,000 to the Roman Catholic School Commission of Montreal for the purpose of remodelling the school halls of the city to meet the requirements of the Montreal civic officials with regard to safety. Quebec laws prohibit the admission of children to moving picture theatres but film shows were being held in the school halls under commercial auspices until the Montreal civic administration ruled that they were unsafe for such performances. The Provincial Government has now provided the money for the improvement of the halls.

SOUND

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Round About the Studios

The cast of Ken Maynard's first production for Universal, "The Wagon Master," is completed at Universal City, with Tom Santschi, Jackie Hanlon, Al Ferguson, George Gillespie, Fred Burns, Frank Rice and Lase McKee. Edith Roberts is the girl.

Rosita Marstini, Franco-Belgian character actress and famous as the mother of Melisande in "The Big Parade," has been added to the cast of "Redemption," in which John Gilbert will make his talking picture debut. Fred Niblo, famous for "Ben Hur" and many other screen successes is now directing "Redemption." A strong supporting cast includes Eleanor Boardman, Renee Adoree, Conrad Nagel and Michael Vavitch, Russian actor and singer.

"Strange Cargo" had its mid-west premiere at the big Palace Theatre at Gary, Indiana, prior to its being shown in Chicago's loop. The four days' engagement of Pathe's first all-talkie was a sensation from both the box-office and artistic angles. The limousines of the executives of the big steel works were side by side with the flivvers of the steel workers, unloading patrons every night to see and hear the picture. This is the first time on record that the Palace has had a picture with an appeal to both classes of patrons, and the result was the biggest four days' business in the history of the house.

George Jessel's contract with Tiffany-Stahl has been bought by William Fox, who intends to make four dialogue pictures with the star of "Lucky Boy."

A director and cast had been engaged for Jessel's next picture but the Fox company's offer was so flattering that the contract between Jessel and Tiffany-Stahl was abrogated.

Because of his remarkable characterization in the sensational "Submarine," and the unanimous demand of exhibitors all over the country, Columbia Pictures announces that it has renewed its option on Ralph Graves' services and signed the popular star on a five year contract.

The first company to visit America to complete a picture started in England, arrived last week on the Aquitania and will make talking sequences for "Kitty," the pictureization of Warwick Deeping's novel, which was started at Henley, England's fashionable boating venter, and will be completed in the R.C.A. studio, New York.

Arriving were Victor Fleming, the director; John Stuart, leading man; Dorothy Cummings, who plays the mother; Charles O'Shaughnessy, character player and James Campbell musical director. Estelle Brody, leading woman, has been waiting in New York for several weeks.

A. Seville, assistant to Victor Saville, and Miss Marjorie Young, scenario writer, also arrived ahead of the company principals.

It is understood that Mr. Campbell, the musical director, and Mr. Saville, have written a play, and upon completion of "Kitty" they will make it into another talking picture before returning to England, as the sound stages being built near London, which were to have been ready in April, have been delayed.

Sarah Padden, stage and vaudeville star, has been given a featured part in Clarence Brown's current Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, "Wonder of Women." This is a continental story with dialogue sequences. The cast of the picture includes Lewis Stone and Peggy Wood.

Tiffany-Stahl's sound pictures have been booked to inaugurate the sound policies of many theatres in upper New York State, according to Mr. P. T. Dana, Manager of the company's Buffalo exchange. "Marriage By Contract" opened the Eastman Theatre sound policy at Rochester, N.Y. "Lucky Boy" inaugurated the sound policies of the Strand, Ithaca, N.Y., the Rex, Genesee, N.Y., Rivoli, Buffalo, N.Y. and the Genesee, Buffalo. "The Toilers" opened the Syracuse Theatre, Syracuse, N.Y., the Monroe, Rochester, N.Y. and the Thurston, Rochester. "The Cavalier" inaugurated the Brighton Theatre, Syracuse, N.Y.



Don Alvarado and Lily Damita in a love scene from M-G-M's "The Bridge of San Luis Rey."

"College Love" is the title chosen for the feature in which the principals of "The Collegians" series are now starring at Universal City. Having completed the fourth series of "The Collegians" in Sound and having developed extraordinary talents in this direction, Carl Laemmle, Jr., their sponsor, is utilizing the same cast, under the direction of Nat Ross, in a unique mingling of songs, dances, wisecracks and love, written by Jack Clymer.

Moon Carol, British actress who last appeared on the Broadway stage in "And So to Bed," will make her motion picture debut in "The Last of Mrs. Cheyney," all-talking version of Frederick Lonsdale's popular play which is now in production under Sidney Franklin at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio.

Josephine Quirk, well known scenarist and writer, has been engaged by Tiffany-Stahl, through Grant L. Cook, to produce 10 two-reel subjects. These are to be 100% talking pictures based on a theme universally known. Up to the present time George McIntosh has been engaged to play the leading boy role in the series.

Harry Cohn, vice-president in charge of production for Columbia Pictures, announces that E. H. Griffith is the latest name of prominence to be added to the company's directorial staff. Mr. Griffith, who has just completed the direction of "The Shady Lady," an outstanding talkie, is not a stranger to the Columbia lot. He also handled the megaphone on "Alias the Lone Wolf" and "The Opening Night" two of the company's past season successes.

George Bancroft's supporting cast for this newest Paramount starring film "Thunderbolt," has been augmented by the addition of James Spottswood, one of the best known character actors in Hollywood.



Scene from "Moulin Rouge," a World Wide feature, starring Olga Chekova.

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